Serials and programmes Telecast on DD/AIR

†4870. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the regional telecast centres of Doordarshan and Akashvani are mostly giving approval for telecast of programmes/serials of such persons who are influential and resourceful;

(b) whether this tendency is also prevalent in national telecasts of Doordarshan and Akashvani; and

(c) if so, the concrete steps being taken by Government for bringing transparency in this regard and also to ensure that resourceless but talented persons are encouraged to come forward?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Prasar Bharati is a statutory autonomus body and Government does not interfere in its day to day functioning. An approved set of guidelines is followed for selection of programmes/ serials. Prasar Bharati has informed that the guidelines for selection of programmes are periodically reviewed and modified by them according to the changing requirements and to simplify the procedure for selection/approval of programmes/serials in a transparent manner.

News telecast by Star TV

†4871. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Star TV is formulating any scheme to give news telecast a new face; and

(b) if so, the comprehensive details thereof and by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Govt. does not maintain such information.

(b) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.